

Reducing Barriers to Entry for the Direct Sales of Local Foods in Ohio

Purpose

Ohio's direct food and farm marketers are voicing concerns regarding barriers to entry, including steep costs for compliance. Current laws, rules and interpretations vary. Some regulations are not up to date with research. OSU Extension, the Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity, the John Glenn College of Public Affairs are seeking input from across Ohio to summarize the status of and suggested changes to Ohio's regulations on local foods sales.

Impact

Development of a research summary of laws in similar states and supporting data for best practices. This will be used in listening sessions throughout Ohio to get input from growers.

Involve a diverse audience of growers from urban to rural in the process, representing 75% of the counties in Ohio. Utilize contacts for marketing local foods in the future.

Build capacity with project collaborators and governing agencies to serve as a starting point for next steps after this project is complete, including updating laws, rules and regulations.

Ohio State Colleges/Units Involved

Ohio Direct Food & Ag Marketing Team
OSU Extension, Local Foods Team
The Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity
The John Glenn College of Public Affairs

Community Partners Involved

Ohio Produce Growers & Marketers Association
Local Food Policy Councils across Ohio
Mid-Ohio Growers Conference



THE OHIO STATE
UNIVERSITY

How you can get involved:

- Participate in Listening Sessions across Ohio
- Implement the opportunities for change, by working with groups and legislators as recommended through the community listening sessions
- Work with legislators and policy makers to educate them on the status of the local food systems, including what regulations are out of date and what the research suggests for changes in Ohio, based on the resulting white paper

To get involved, contact:

Eric Barrett
Assistant Professor
OSU Extension
barrett.90@osu.edu

